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## INTELLIGENCE

### Is Raoul Wallenberg Dead?

In the closing days of World War II, a gallant Swedish businessman named Raoul Wallenberg volunteered to go to Budapest as an accredited diplomat. His mission: to save as many Jews as possible from the gas chambers of Auschwitz.

In five months, by bribing and bamboozling Hitler's murderers—especially Adolf Eichmann, who was obsessed with exterminating Hungary's 800,000 Jews before Germany lost the war—Wallenberg created a special passport and managed to save 30,000 Jews from the "Final Solution."

When the Russian troops took Budapest in January 1945, they arrested Wallenberg for no announced reason and shipped him back to Moscow as a spy. No one has heard from him since. The Russians, after a series of lies, finally said he died of a heart attack in Lubyanka Prison in 1947. Several returning prisoners, however, say they talked to Wallenberg as recently as 1975.

What is the truth about Wallenberg, one of the heroic figures of the war? If alive—as his half-sister, Nina Lagergren of Stockholm, believes—he would be 70. But is he alive?

A new book, "Lost Hero, the Mystery of Raoul Wallenberg" by Frederick E. Werbell and Thurston Clarke, presents considerable evidence that he was tortured by the Russians "by mistake" and died in a Moscow hospital in the mid-'60s.

On Oct. 19, 1965, the Swedish court validated Wallenberg's 1939 will. In a secret meeting on April 14, 1980, Wolfgang Vogel, the East German attorney who played a key role in exchanging East-West spies and prisoners (it was he who helped arrange the exchange of our U-2 pilot Francis Gary Powers in 1962 for Col. Rudolf Abel), also confessed that Wallenberg was dead.

Many people dedicated to the search for Raoul Wallenberg will not believe the circumstantial evidence in "Lost Hero." They will believe nothing less than an admission by Moscow that Wallenberg was unjustly imprisoned and is alive somewhere in the Soviet Union—an admission that is not likely to be soon forthcoming.